

## JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 17 DECEMBER 1993

## BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REFNO: 1064-0-01 (ACCNO 1264) Status: (J) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Name: COONS, HENRY ALBERT Date Status assigned: 18 Jul 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	B +
Grade	04	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	25 Nov 1933	Weight	166 lb / 75.2 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	NEW YORK	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	\$

## SITE INFORMATION

## INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: WATER SITE  
UTM: 48QXG395860  
Lat/Long: 194559N / 1061954E  
Country: OVER WATER - VN  
Military Region: \$  
Mission Province: VN - OVERWATER  
(formerly):  
Mission District: VN - OVERWATER  
Mission Date: 28 Feb 1968 2100L  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: None.

## JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

No Information Available

## VEHICLE DATA

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152938
Crash Type: None	Engine Type: J52
Call Sign: RAY GUN 512	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

## SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY

# = Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.  
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

## JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 17 DECEMBER 1993

## BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REFNO: 1064-0-02 (ACCNO 1450) Status: (J) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Name: STEGMAN, THOMAS Date Status assigned: 18 Jul 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	DATA
Service	NAVY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	03	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	72 in / 1.83 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	13 Jul 1938	Weight	160 lb / 72.5 kg	Duty pos	BOMB/NAV
Home State	MARYLAND	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	\$

## SITE INFORMATION

## INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: WATER SITE  
UTM: 48QXG395860  
Lat/Long: 194559N / 1061954E  
Country: OVER WATER - VN  
Military Region: \$  
Mission Province: VN - OVERWATER  
(formerly):  
Mission District: VN - OVERWATER  
Mission Date: 28 Feb 1968 2100L  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: None.

## JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

No Information Available

## VEHICLE DATA

Vehicle Type: A6A	Serial: 152938
Crash Type: None	Engine Type: J52
Call Sign: RAY GUN 512	1 Serial: #
Year: \$	2 Serial: #

## SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY

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CASE: 1064

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

30 March 1976

ON 28 FEBRUARY 1968 LCDR HENRY A. COONS, PILOT, AND LT THOMAS (NMI) STEGMAN, BOMBARDIER-NAVIGATOR, WERE THE CREW OF AN A6A AIRCRAFT, (BUNO #152938, CALL SIGN RAY GUN 512), LAUNCHED WITH ANOTHER AIRCRAFT FROM THE CARRIER USS ENTERPRISE TO STRIKE TARGETS IN NORTH VIETNAM. AFTER A NORMAL LAUNCH FROM THE SHIP, THE AIRCRAFT ESTABLISHED RADIO COMMUNICATIONS ON THE STRIKE COMMUNICATIONS FREQUENCY, AND BOTH A6A AIRCRAFT PROCEEDED INDEPENDENTLY TO STRIKE THEIR WIDELY SEPARATED TARGETS. AS PLANNED, LCDR COONS MADE A COMMUNICATIONS CHECK AT THE POINT WHERE HE WAS TO BEGIN HIS APPROACH TO THE TARGET.

HE WAS NOT TO CALL AGAIN UNTIL HE HAD COMPLETED HIS MISSION AND WAS AGAIN CROSSING THE COAST LINE TO RETURN TO THE CARRIER. WHEN HE FAILED TO MAKE THE EGRESS REPORT OR TO RETURN TO THE CARRIER, AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORT WAS BEGUN. DURING WHICH THE COONS-STEMAN AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE WAS LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XG 395 860. AIRCRAFT DEBRIS WERE RECOVERED FROM THE SEA CRASH AT GRID COORDINATES XG 344 823. NO HUMAN REMAINS WERE RECOVERED, HOWEVER, AND FURTHER SEARCH EFFORTS PRODUCED NOTHING. (REF 1)

AN OVERWATER/AT-SEA CASUALTY RESOLUTION OPERATION WAS CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD OF JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1973 TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY/DESIRABILITY OF EXPANDING SUCH OPERATIONS TO BE USED IN CASES SUCH AS THIS. BASED ON THE COMBINED FACTORS OF COST AND LACK OF ANY POSITIVE RESULTS WHATSOEVER, THE AT-SEA OPERATIONS WERE TERMINATED. THESE INDIVIDUALS' NAMES AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. ON 18 JULY 1974 THE ARMED SERVICES GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICE CONCURRED WITH THE JCRC RECOMMENDATION THAT THE REMAINS OF LCDR COONS AND LT STEGMAN BE DECLARED NONRECOVERABLE, AND FURTHER DIRECTED THAT THE CASE REVERT TO INACTIVE STATUS AND ALL SEARCH PLANS AND OPERATIONS BE DISCONTINUED. LCDR COONS AND LT STEGMAN ARE CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, REMAINS NONRECOVERABLE. (REF 2)

=== REFERENCES ===

30 March 1976

REFERENCES: <1> LTR, JCRC-CDD-CR, 8 JUL 74. <2> LTR, ASGRO BOARD OF REVIEW, 10 AUG 74.

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=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

13 December 1993

DURING THE 28 JULY 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI, A LIST OF CASES INVOLVING 168 UNACCOUNTED-FOR PERSONNEL PRESUMABLY LOST OVER WATER AT LEAST 10 KILOMETERS FROM THE COAST OF VIETNAM WAS PASSED TO THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. THE VIETNAMESE WERE ASKED TO UNILATERALLY REVIEW THEIR RECORDS FOR RELEVANT INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THESE CASES.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

30 March 1976

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: HENRY A COONS 1064-0-01, AND THOMAS (NMI) STEGMAN 1064-0-02.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

30 March 1976

CHG INCIDENT LOCATION FM XG 344 823 TO XG 395 860 BASED ON CO ATTK SQ 35 BOARD RPT W/STMTS 31 MAR 68.